

BAR HARBOR CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MINUTES- REGULAR MEETING
AUGUST 10 2009

ITEM 1

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:35pm. Present were: Jill Weber, Carla Haskel, Enoch Albert, Cynthia Ocel, Mary Ann Handel, Anne Wheeler, Anne K, and Lauren Suerth.

ITEM 2

EXCUSED ABSENCES

Patrick Watson was an excused absence from the meeting.

ITEM 3

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

The minutes were accepted with the amendments: “Pemetec students”, rather than “High School Students”. Also, omit sentence re “there has been no increase in town's recycling weight”, as in fact, the town has no record of this. (We will look into this)

ITEM 4

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

The agenda was adopted with amendment: addition of Northeast Creek housing tour.

ITEM 5

OLD BUSINESS

-Northeast Creek housing tour- Patrick is looking for volunteers for 'green building' tours. He will put together a short 'training' for each. He is working on 'write ups' on each building.

-Dark Skies: Bar Harbor Street Light Policy- The commission voted to make the following recommendation on the Street Light Policy: The Commission applauds the forward thinking of the Council with this. We urge that language be incorporated into this policy that new street lighting be compliant with the lighting ordinance of the Town of Bar Harbor. We see this as a great opportunity as a demonstration project with Bangor Hydro to showcase lighting that is energy efficient, lower cost and safe.” All were in favor of this motion. The commission also supports that Cottage St. lighting be planned to be dark sky compliant.

-Solid waste/recycling video- We viewed and liked the video. Jill will contact Reel Pizza to see if they'd like to show it during intermission.

-Acadia National Park water sampling- Jill reports that she spoke with ANP and they do not test the brook near the ball park. Anne W. reports that she spoke with Jane Disney, who said we could let them know, at the Community Environmental Health Lab, how they can help us. For example, if we'd like some bacterial tests done or help setting up a watershed survey- we could work together on those. She wondered about funding for Cruise Ship monitoring.

-Submit work plan to Planning Board and Town Council- We reviewed the 2010 work plan. All were in favor of approving it. Anne K. will present it to the Planning Board as a “check in” with them.

ITEM 6

NEW BUSINESS

-Northeast Creek housing sponsoring a “green day” He asked if we would like to have a table to represent the Conservation Commission. Jill will call the printer to get more Northeast Creek Watershed brochures printed (hopefully) in time to have at the 'green day”

- Staff reports-Lauren reports that she contacted Beginning With Habitat. She gave us packets with information. She will work on getting information on the Town's server, for all to access.
- We discussed possible uses for TNC grant money.

-Conservation Summit 2009 Planning-

- October 27th or 28th at the MDIHS- 6-9pm. We'll ask them for microphones and to turn off vending machines. (we'll speak with the MDIHS). Jill will ask Ron Beard to moderate.

- Theme and goals of Summit- Information Share. Establish multi town effort, at least communications. joining of forces and other towns and communities- 2 or 3 towns can do more than just 1 (eg. Composting works better with more volume), towns could share trucking. "Trash Talk in Downeast-solid waste reduction and management"?

- Possible speakers- Toby Stevenson- Ellsworth composting. Maine Resource Recovery- single stream alternative? Erica Scribner., Eco Maine, Southwest Harbor transfer station guy,

- possible issues to discuss- Single Stream- Maine Resource Recovery, Pay as you Throw (someone from State Planning-Enoch?), Polystyrene,

- 4 speakers- 15 min. each-

- M. A. will talk about positive outcome of last Summit- Dark Skies Ordinance, worked with other communities, Dark Skies Festival (ANP)

- Break out into groups- summary from each group- then summary from all from Ron Beard.

- Compostable plates, etc.

- Lauren will get information from people on registration forms. What issues would you like to see discussed? What issues are your organizations working on? Thoughts on trash management? On Eco Maine and single stream? Ask people to rank topic importance. If you could add a topic, what?

- invite businesses that do recycling....focus on solutions- ie "Evergreen:.

ITEM 7

ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

- Summit - Meet at Southwest Harbor transfer station, then inspect Mill Brook town property, then onto Bar Harbor for regular meeting. TBA

ITEM 8

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30pm

Respectfully submitted by,

Anne Wheeler, Sect.